

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

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ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA



**Request for Interest (RFI)**

**AWWA M36 Water Audits**

**Agency Document Number: BWR-RFI-2018-03-AWWA-M36**

**COMMBUYS #: BD-18-1045-BWR00-BWR01-19023**

**August 15, 2017**

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## **1 RFI INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

### **1.1 Description**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is soliciting interest from Water Management Act (WMA) registrants and permit holders to receive a free American Water Works Association (AWWA) M36 “Top-Down” Audit from a private consulting firm (the consulting firm has yet to be determined). For certain facilities that meet the outlined data criteria, a “Real-Loss Component Analysis” can also be done. The selected WMA public water suppliers (PWSs) are required to participate in the AWWA M36 Audit; however, the consulting firm hired by MassDEP will guide the audit and provide a report to the PWSs and MassDEP following its completion.

Based on the response to this Request for Interest (RFI), a list of WMA PWSs approved for the completion of a “Top Down” M36 Audit, or a “Top Down” M36 Audit with a “Real Loss Component Analysis” will be included in a consulting services Request for Response (RFR) to be released by MassDEP later this year. The purpose of that RFR will be to select the consulting firm that will conduct the AWWA M36 Audits. A final list of WMA PWSs slated to receive an AWWA M36 Audit will not be available until after a consulting firm is selected by MassDEP (time and funding may constrain the number of AWWA M36 Audits that can be completed).

### **1.2 Background**

The AWWA M36 Audit methodology has been successfully implemented in other state programs throughout the country. MassDEP is piloting the AWWA M36 Audit as a common methodology for public water systems (PWSs) throughout the Commonwealth to clearly articulate water loss needs and objectives. Developing uniform approaches for identifying and communicating water loss will allow PWSs and state agencies to work together to more efficiently set infrastructure and management goals that minimize costly non-revenue water production, prioritize the replacement of aging or failing infrastructure, and manage infrastructure assets. For WMA permittees that do not meet their Unaccounted for Water (UAW) Performance Standard of 10 percent or less, this AWWA M36 Audit will assist with meeting WMA permit conditions; a water audit is required when a permittee is not meeting the UAW standard.

### **1.3 Eligible Entities**

Eligible entities are PWSs and municipalities with current WMA permits or registrations. “Top-Down” audits are available to PWSs that have not done an AWWA M36 water audit before, or have done a recent AWWA M36 audit but did not obtain a data validity score over 51. A “Real Loss Component Analysis” will be available to PWSs that have recently completed an AWWA M36 audit, have obtained a validity score of 51 or greater, and have the detailed data necessary to perform the analysis.

## 2 ESTIMATED CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE
RFI Release Date	August 17, 2017
RFI Close Date	October 20, 2017
Consulting Firm RFR Release Date	October 27, 2017
Consulting Firm RFR Close Date	November 17, 2017
Estimated Notification of Successful Bidder(s)	November 30, 2017
Estimated Consultant Contract Start Date	December 15, 2017
Consultant Contract End Date	June 30, 2018

### 3 DATA NEEDS

All applicants must gather and have readily available the following detailed system information for the calendar year 2017 by April 12, 2018 for inclusion in this AWWA M36 Audit grant program:

- production metering and error,
- distribution system pressures,
- reservoir or tank storage numbers,
- water imported,
- leak detection and repair,
- customer metering and billing and potential errors,
- authorized consumption from flushing, fire-fighting and related activities,
- water conservation activities,
- water rates and production costs, and
- infrastructure rehabilitation.

For applicants who wish to have a “Real Loss Component Analysis” done, the applicant must gather and have readily available the following detailed system information for the calendar year 2017 by April 12, 2018 for inclusion in this AWWA M36 Audit grant program:

For all leaks and breaks (Either reported or found during a leak detection survey):

- total number of failures by main size that were reported to and repaired
- total length of mains for each mains size group
- average duration of locating and containing reported failure events by mains size
- total number of failures by distribution system appurtenance type that were reported to and repaired
- total number of appurtenances for each system appurtenance group
- average awareness duration for reported failure events by system appurtenance type
- average duration of locating and containing reported failure events by system appurtenance
- total number of failures by service connection size (<1" or >=1") that were reported to and repaired the water utility
- total number of service connections for each service connection size group
- average awareness duration for reported failure events by service connection size group
- average duration of locating and containing reported failure events by service connection size group

The AWWA M36 Audit data manual can be downloaded at [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org) for more information on these data needs.

From data collection through the completion of the AWWA M36 Audit, MassDEP estimates that it will take the applicant approximately 100 hours to complete all work.

#### **4 EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Applicant responses will be used to rank applicants and will determine who will be eligible for the completion of an AWWA M36 Audit by the consulting firm hired by MassDEP.

##### **4.1 Evaluation Components**

A MassDEP selection committee will review applications from responding PWSs. Applications will be evaluated based, at a minimum, upon the following criteria:

- Commitment made by the applicant to actively participate in the AWWA M36 Audit and provide documentation to MassDEP of in-kind services rendered. MassDEP estimates that approximately 100 hours will be required by the PWS to complete this audit.
- Ability of the applicant to provide the necessary data to perform and complete a “Top-Down Audit” or a “Top-Down Audit” with a “Real Loss Component Analysis.”
- PWSs with recent DEP-approved high unaccounted for water (UAW) rates. Recent UAW rates are available at:  
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/watersheds/performance-standards-for-public-water-supplies.html>
- WMA permittees that have received an Interim Allocation from the Department of Conservation and Recreation instead of Final Water Needs Forecast because of high UAW or other accounting concerns.
- PWSs that have recently done work to try and improve UAW rates.
- Quality and responsiveness of the proposal including: completeness, organization, and conciseness.

#### 4.2 **Proposal Format**

Proposal shall be limited to 2 pages (single-spaced, 8-1/2" by 11" sheet with 0.5" margins) and shall include the following sections:

- Proposals should include a short statement detailing how the applicant will benefit from the completion of an AWWA M36 Audit.
- A discussion of the AWWA M36 audit requested. If a "Real Loss Component Analysis" is requested, please be prepared to include a copy of the final report from your most recent AWWA M36 audit.
- A discussion of available data and data gaps.
- A discussion of recent MassDEP-approved UAW values, as well as work that has been undertaken by the applicant to improve those values.
- A commitment to providing in-kind services sufficient to allow for data to be provided and validated for a complete and accurate AWWA M36 Audit and validation to be performed in the timeframe allowed.
- A commitment to work with a consulting firm to complete the AWWA M36 Audit by June 30, 2018.
- A contact list including PWSs contacts' email and telephone numbers.

#### 5 **HOW TO SUBMIT A PAPER RESPONSE**

**INSTRUCTIONS—SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSE IN A SEALED ENVELOPE THAT IS CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE WORDS "M36 AUDIT – 2018", BY THE RESPONSE DEADLINE, TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:**

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection  
One Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
ATTN: Jennifer D'Urso  
Telephone: 617-654-6591  
Fax: 617-292-5696  
E-Mail: [jen.durso@state.ma.us](mailto:jen.durso@state.ma.us)

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope and include **one (1)** original signed copy, and **four (4)** duplicate copies.

**Response Deadline**— Responses are due no later than **October 20, 2017 at 5 pm** and **MUST** be mailed or hand delivered to the address listed above. **LATE RESPONSES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**